



Students First Initiative: CT State Community College

May 5, 2023



**Connecticut State
Colleges & Universities**

Presenters

Amy Feest

Associate Vice-President of Academic Programs and Curriculum

Academic Deans:

Jimmy Adams, School of Business & Hospitality

B.L. Baker, School of Arts & Humanities / School of Social & Behavioral Sciences

David DiMattio, School of Science & Mathematics

Paula Dowd, School of Nursing & Health Careers

H. Justin Moore, School of Engineering & Technology

Community Colleges – Significant Challenges

Lagging Student Success

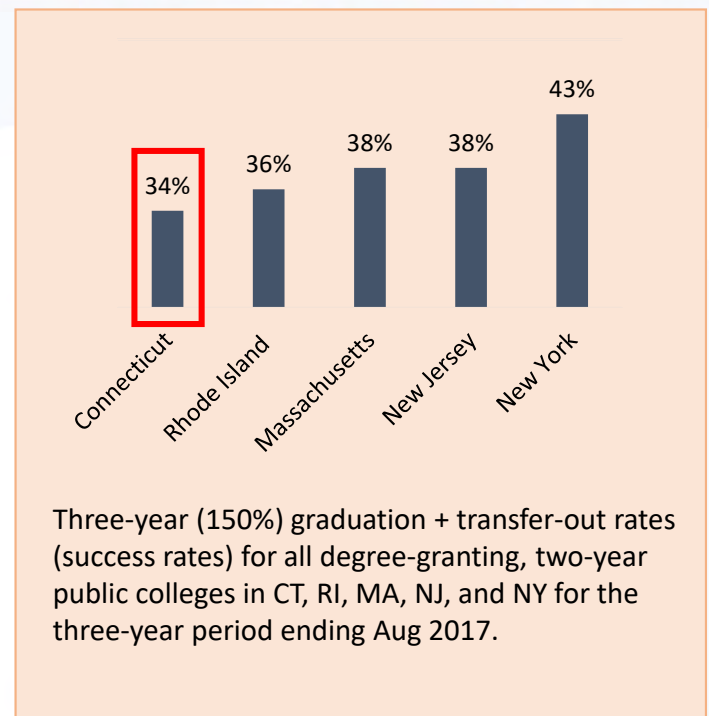
9 out of 12 colleges' graduation rates are of concern to NECHE

Declining Enrollment

Down 7% since 2010, projected additional 8% down in the next decade

Fiscal Sustainability

Financial stability for 10 of 12 colleges are of concern to NECHE



Advantages of Consolidation

- **A single NECHE accredited community college with 12 campuses** removes barriers to student success through
 - adoption of best practices at scale and across campuses,
 - prioritizing student-facing services amid fiscal constraints by focusing resources on students' success needs,
 - mitigating upward pressure on tuition,
 - streamlining administrative tasks, and
 - aligning common procedures.
- **A single NECHE accredited community college with 12 campuses** provides geographic access to all programs across the campuses

Single Community College Mission

The Community College of Connecticut provides access to academically rigorous and innovative education and training focused on student success.

The College supports excellence in teaching and learning, makes data-informed decisions, promotes equity, advances positive change for the students, communities, and industries it serves, and awards associate degrees and certificates.



CT STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Curriculum Alignment

Goal:

- Align programs and courses from 12 colleges into CT-State

Legacy programs:

- More than 660 degrees, 330 certificates, 4000 courses

CT State:

- At least 185 degrees, 110 certificates, 1600 courses

Common General Education Core

1	Eng. 101 Composition	3 credits
2	Math 100 or higher (college level)	3-4 credits
3	Arts and Humanities: Courses vetted for <u>TAP Arts and Humanities</u> (replaces Aesthetic Dimensions) ARC 102, ART, ASL, COM, DGA, ENG, ESL (two top levels), GRA, HUM, MUS, PHL, THR, Language and Culture (ARA, ASL*, CHI, FRE, GER, ITA, JPN, LAT, RUS and SPA)	3-4 credits
4	Choose one from: • Scientific Reasoning – AST, BIO, CHE, EAS, ENV, EVS, GLG, MET, OCE, PHY, SC course vetted for TAP Scientific Reasoning • Scientific Knowledge and Understanding – AST, BIO, CHE, EAS, ENV, EVS, GLG, MET, OCE, PHY, SCI course vetted for TAP Scientific Knowledge and Understanding outcomes	3-4 credits (lab optional)
5	Choose one from: • Social / Behavioral Science – ANT, ECN, GEO, POL, PSY, SOC, WMS course vetted for TAP Social and Behavioral Science outcomes • Historical Knowledge – HIS course vetted for TAP Historical Knowledge outcomes	3 credits

Common General Education Core

6	<p>Choose one from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Oral Communication – COM courses vetted for TAP Oral Communication •Written Communication II – ENG course vetted for TAP Written Communication II outcomes 	3 credits
7	<p>Choose one from: (Program directed)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A course vetted for one of the following TAP categories that has not been fulfilled elsewhere in the general education requirements: •Continued Learning/Info Literacy •Scientific Knowledge •Scientific Reasoning •Social / Behavioral Science •Historical Knowledge •Written Communication II •Oral Communication <p>Program alignment groups will determine how this will be designated</p>	3-4 credits
	<p>Students must take at least one course in the Gen Ed core which meets a diversity requirement.</p>	<p>Total: 21-25 credits</p>



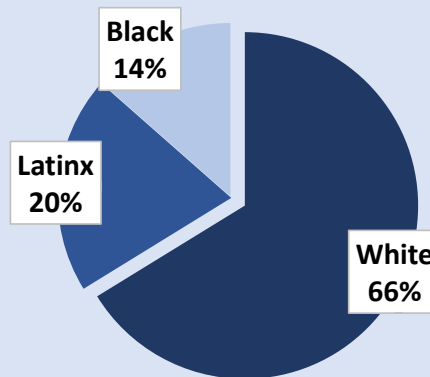
Equity

CSCU Community Colleges & State Attainment

70%
by 2025

*Connecticut State
Attainment Goal:
70% by 2025*

**CSCU Credential
Attainment**
(2013-18)



2983
More

*If we had equity,
2983 more community
college credentials
would have been
awarded to Latinx and
Black students 2013-18.*

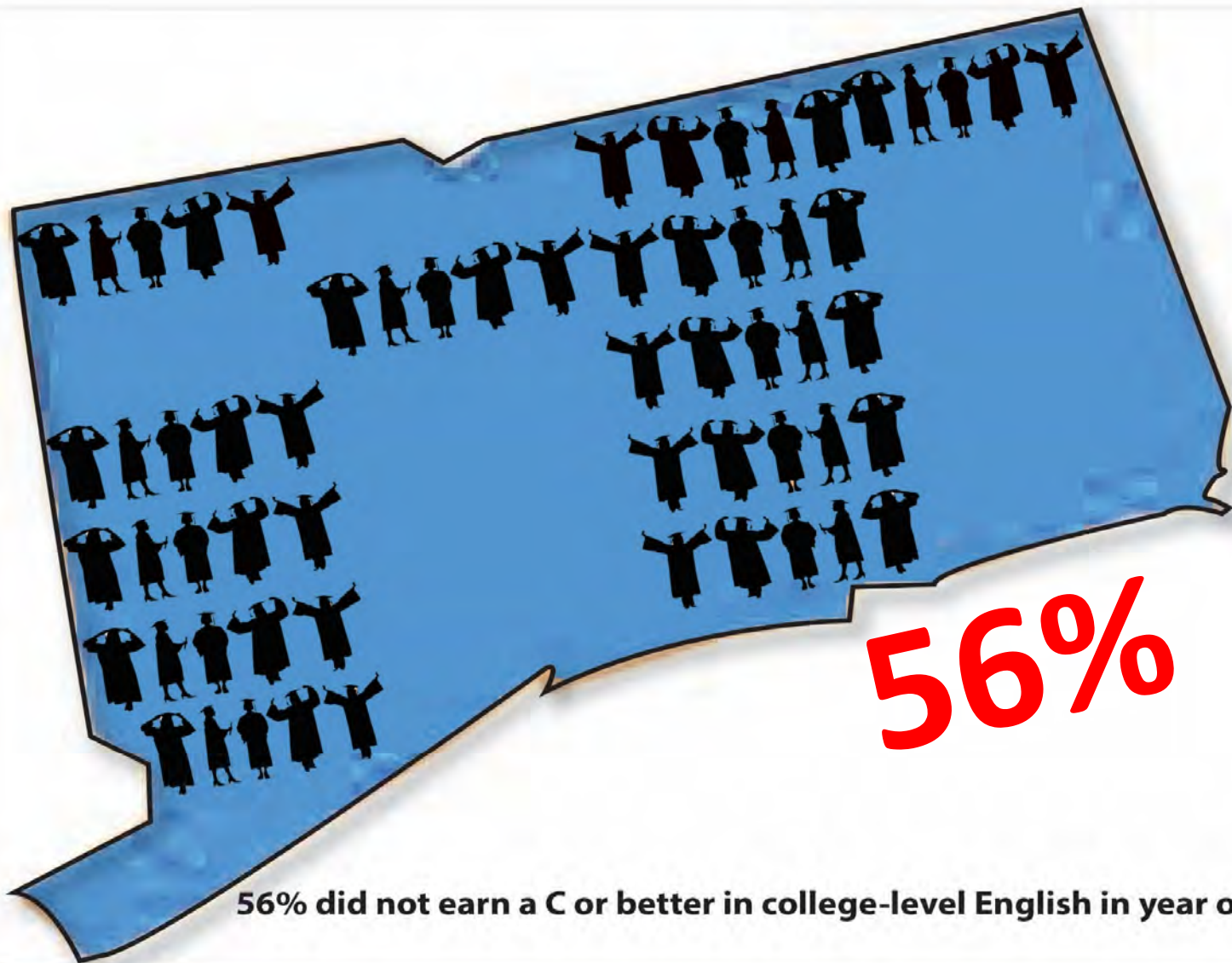
CSCU Community Colleges & State Attainment

2 *out of* 3

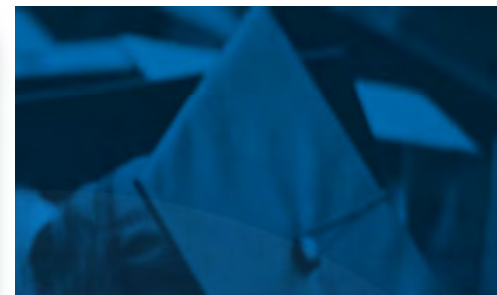


Connecticut community colleges enroll 2/3 of the state's minority undergraduates

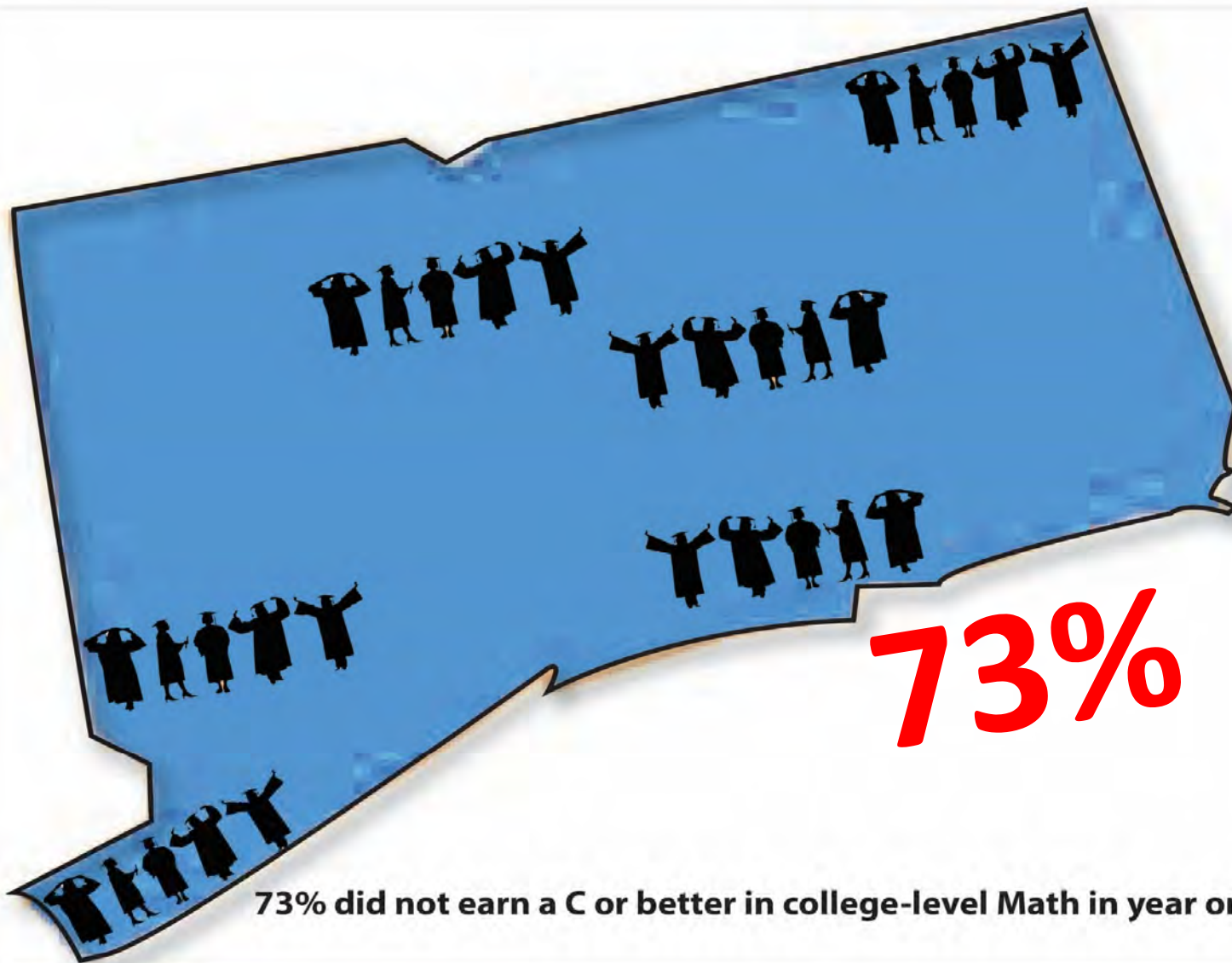




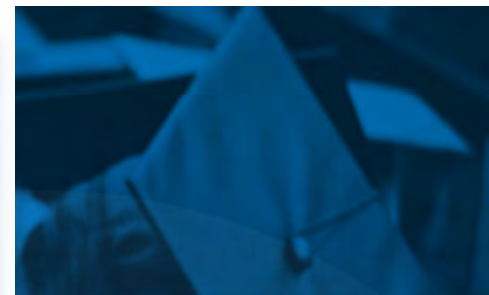
56% did not earn a C or better in college-level English in year one



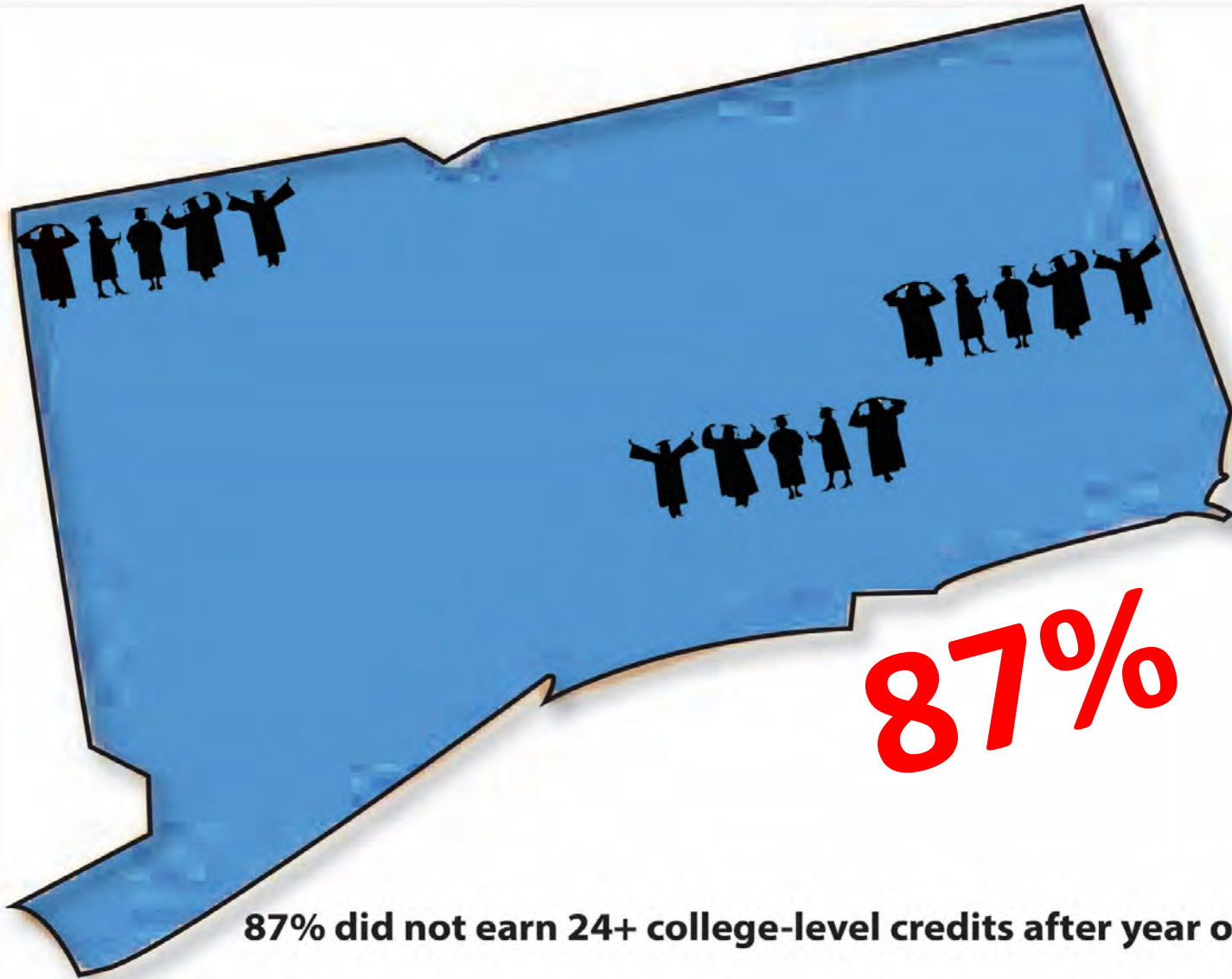
CT STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



73% did not earn a C or better in college-level Math in year one



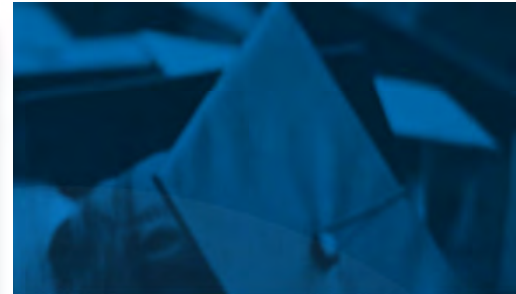
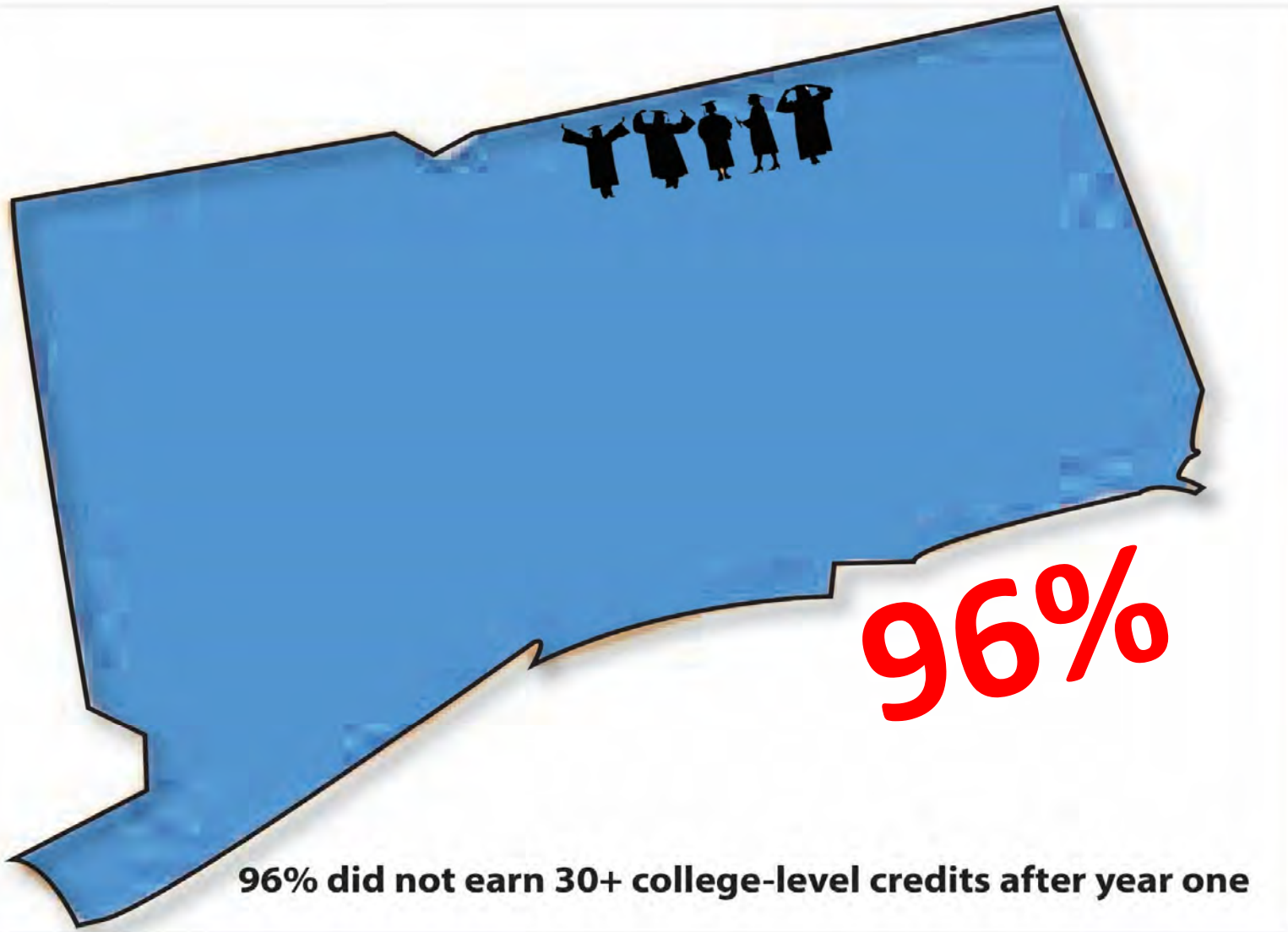
CT STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



87% did not earn 24+ college-level credits after year one

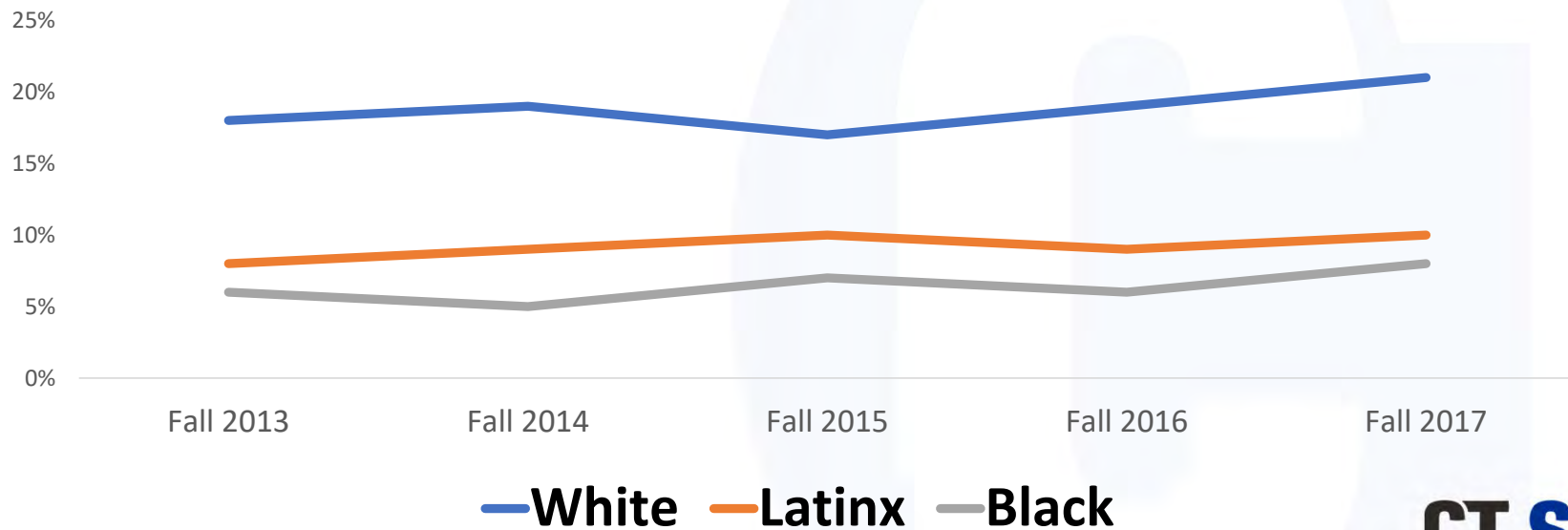


CT STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



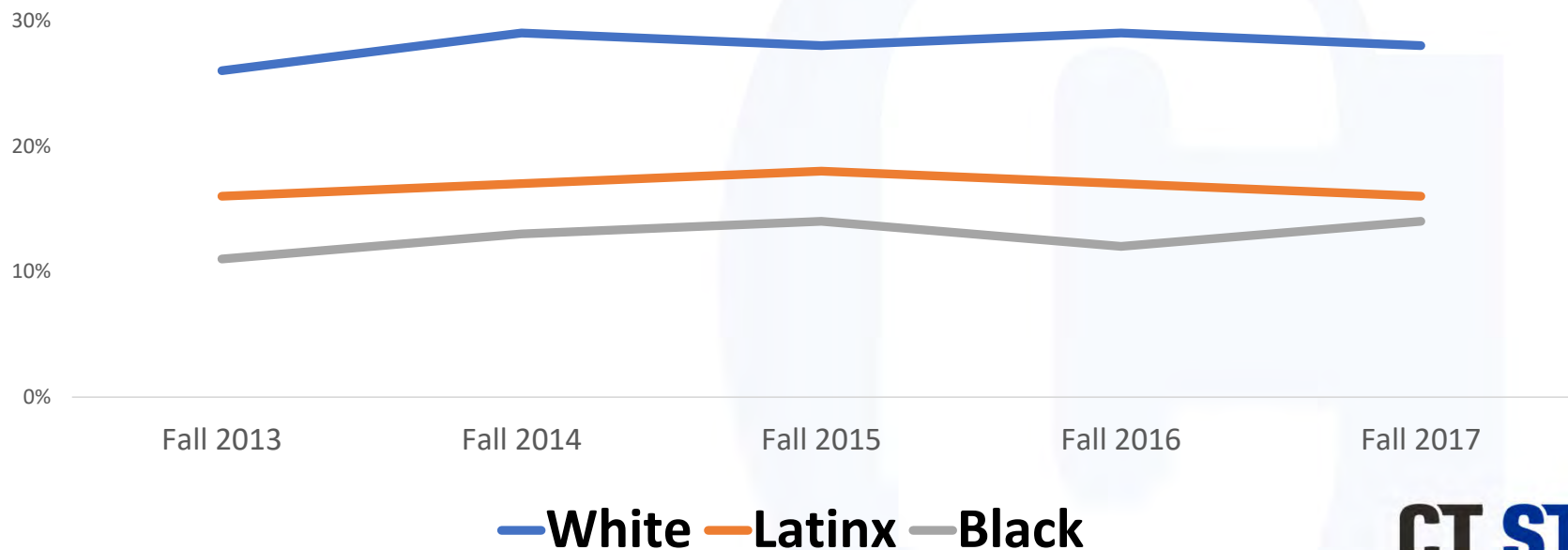
CSCU Community Colleges & State Attainment

Percentage of students who earn 24 or more college-level credits in year one, disaggregated



CSCU Community Colleges & State Attainment

Percentage of students who passed college-level math and college-level English in year one, disaggregated



CSCU Community Colleges & State Attainment

Closing the Attainment Gap

The states that have closed the attainment gap for minority students have adopted and are practicing guided pathways at scale statewide.

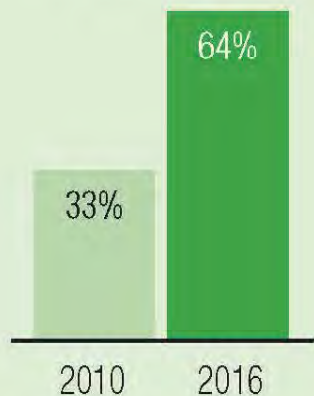
CSCU Community Colleges & State Attainment

PATHWAYS RESULTS

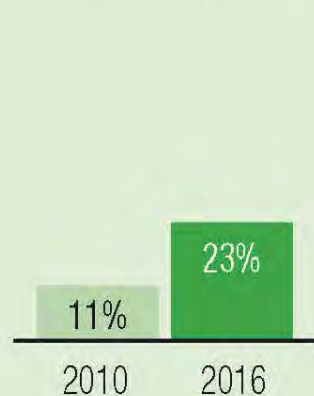
Alamo Colleges: Dramatic Gains in College Credits and Course Completions

Students Are Earning More Credits

Percentage of fall FTEIC students who earned 6+ credits in their 1st term

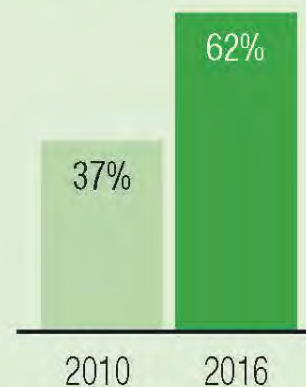


Percentage of fall FTEIC students who earned 24+ credits in year 1

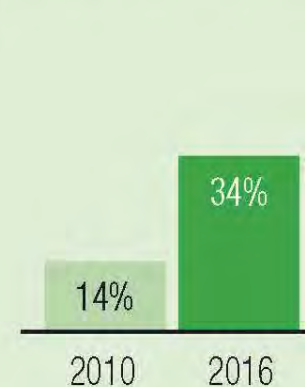


Students Are Completing More College-Level Courses

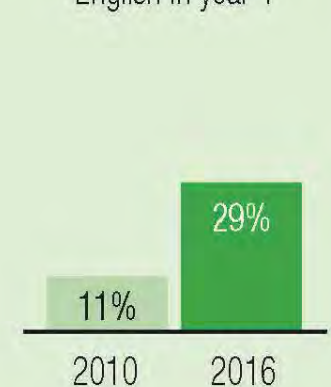
Percentage of fall FTEIC students who completed college English in year 1



Percentage of fall FTEIC students who completed college math in year 1



Percentage of fall FTEIC students who completed both college math and English in year 1



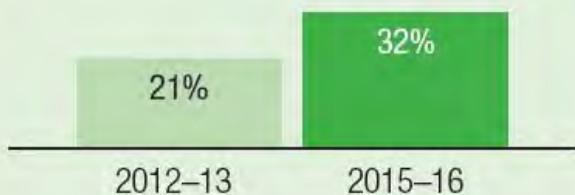
FTEIC: First time ever in college

Source: Alamo Colleges and Community College Research Center, 2018

Tennessee: Improvements in Course Completions Lead to Higher Graduation Rates

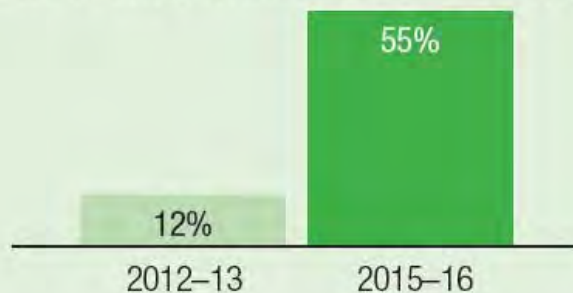
More Freshmen Meet Course Thresholds

Percentage of incoming community college freshmen passing at least nine semester credits (roughly three courses) in their program of study



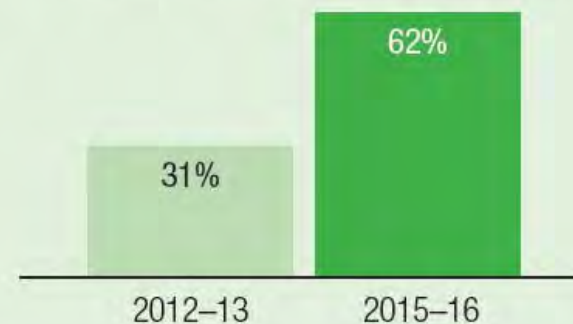
Pass Rate for College-Level Math Quadruples

Percentage of new community college students passing a college-level math course in their first year



Pass Rate for College-Level English Doubles

Pass rate for college-level English (Comp 101)



Higher Graduation Rates

42%

Increase in three-year graduation rate from 2013 to 2016 (based on the three years prior to each year)

INCLUDING

88%

Increase among underrepresented minority students

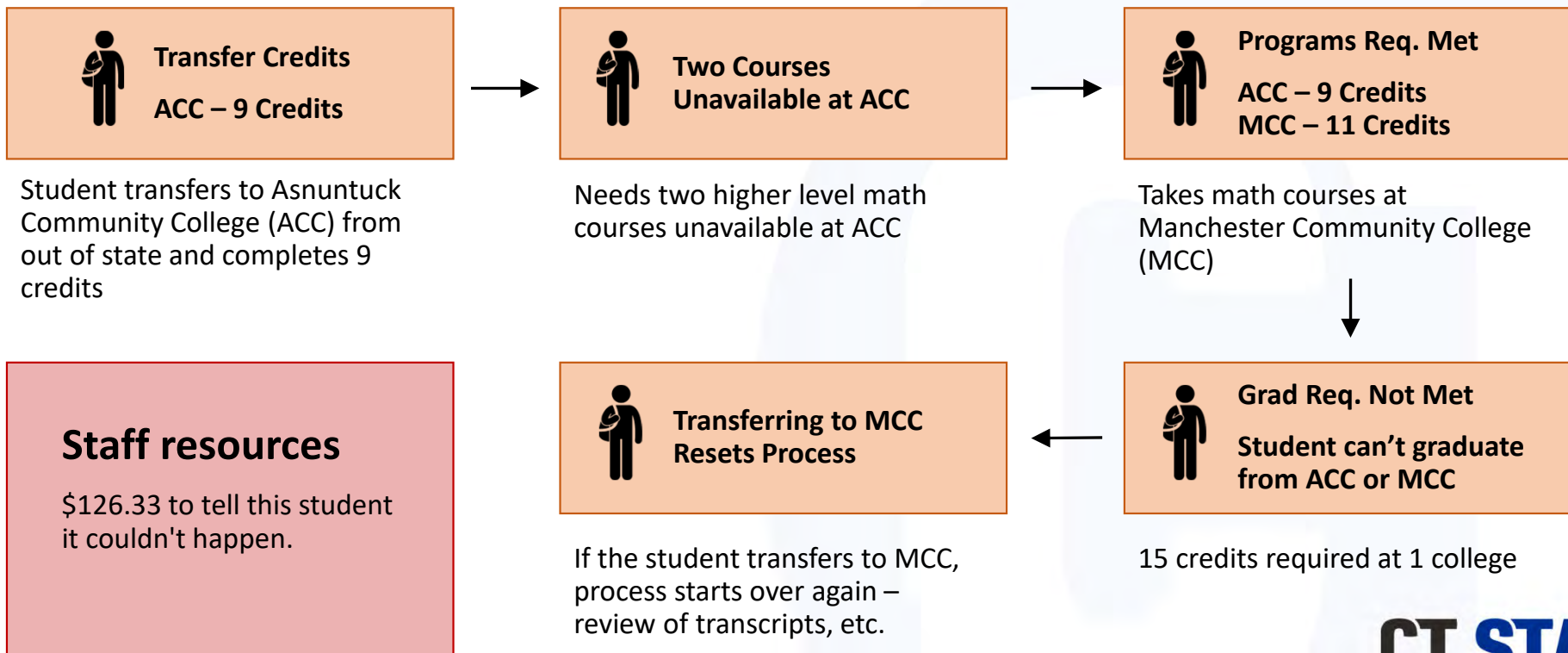
Source: Tennessee Board of Regents, 2016



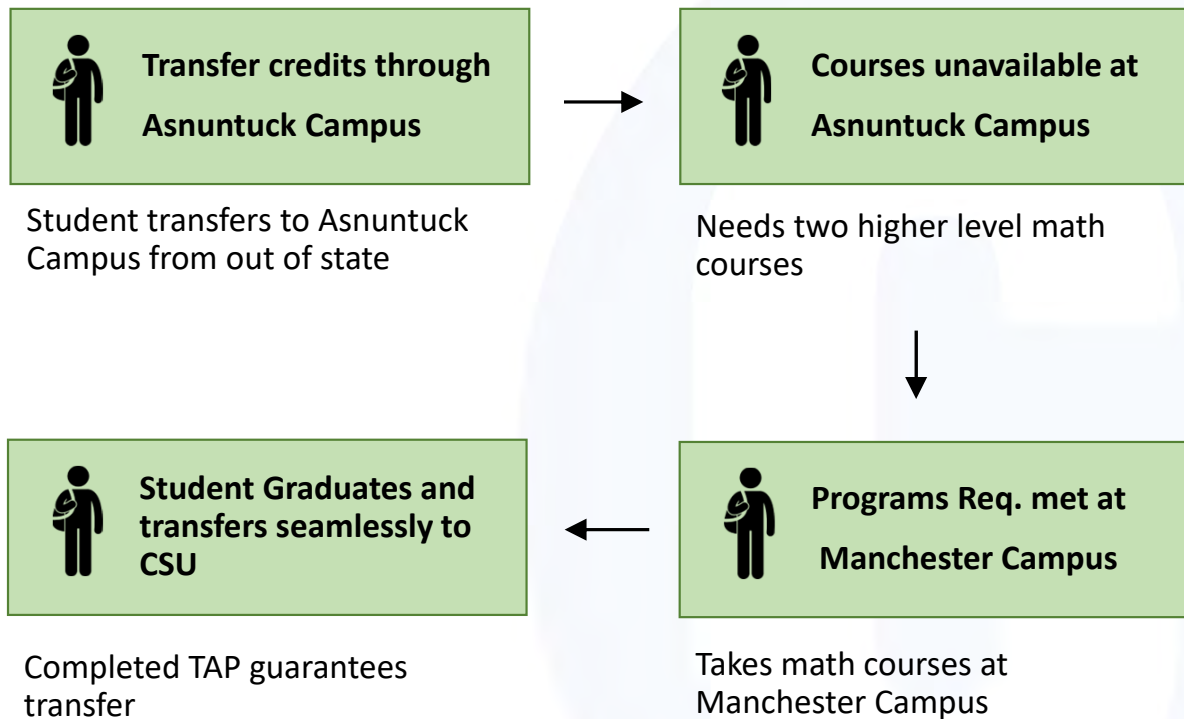
The Student Experience

CT STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Example: 12 Colleges



Example II: Single College



Developing Paths: Mapping to Student End Goals



How can we do better?

The Typical Community College	The Guided Pathways College
Paths to student goals unclear	Clear roadmaps to student end goals
Too many choices	Simplify choice: organize programs into meta-majors
“Opt-in” career & college planning	Required academic and career plans created in first year experience course
Developmental education barriers	Embedded supports to help students complete college level math and English in the first year
Students’ progress not monitored	Student progress closely tracked, regular feedback & support
Non-credit poorly aligned with college	Non-credit aligned with certificates and degree programs

Source: Jenkins, Davis and Johnstone, Rob. “Start with the End in Mind: Building Guided Pathways to Student Success.” Washington, DC: Community College Presentation at Jobs for the Future’s Student Success Summit, September 2014.

Four Pillars of Guided Pathways

Developing Paths

Helping Students Choose a Path

**Improving Student
Success**

**Creating Meaningful Learning
Experiences**

**Helping Students Stay on their
Path**

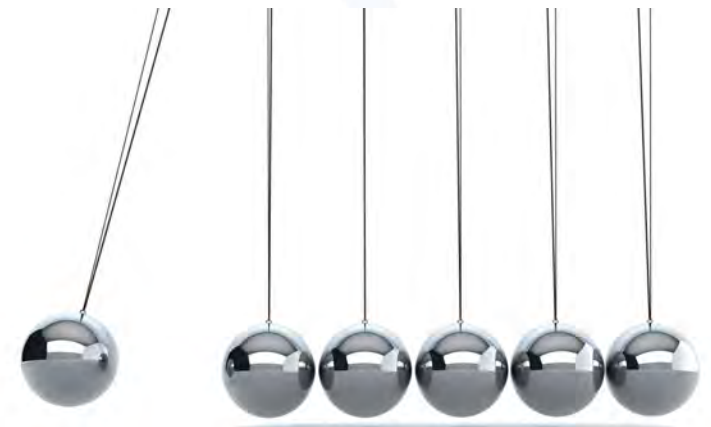
Creating Meaningful Learning Experiences

- Course outcomes tied to program-specific outcomes
- Faculty-led assessment and improvement of teaching
- High impact teaching practices



Helping Students Choose a Path

- GP essential practice: Simplify choices by organizing programs into “Areas of Study”
- Six CT State Academic School
 - Social & Behavioral Sciences
 - Arts & Humanities
 - Science & Mathematics
 - Nursing & Health Careers
 - Business & Hospitality
 - Engineering & Technology



Helping Students Choose a Path: CCS101: First Year Seminar

- GP essential practice: Every student has a comprehensive and individualized academic & career plan
- FYE workgroup of campus experts redesigned first year experience course

Course Description. This course prepares students for success in college and beyond. ***Students will explore academic and career options, set informed academic and career goals,*** and develop essential skills such as information literacy, critical thinking, and effective communication. ***Students will also develop a personalized academic plan*** and learn academic behaviors and study strategies associated with success.

Helping Students Choose a Path: Onboarding Students

- Building external partnerships
 - K-12 Partners
 - Workforce & industry
 - Community & non-profit organizations
- Outlining paths through dual enrollment programs
- Developing streamlined enrollment processes for credit and non-credit programs
 - Alignment of enrollment and financial services
- Creating clear communication on the pathways

Helping Students Stay on Their Path

- Predictors Correlated with College Completion
 - Credit Momentum
 - 15 Credits 1st Semester
 - 24 Credits 1st Year
 - Gateway Momentum
 - Math and English 1st Year
 - Program Momentum
 - 9 Credits in Major 1st Year

How will this affect HS partnerships?

It only makes it better!

- Current CCP & dual enrollment partnerships will continue
- Starting Fall '23, local campus contacts will continue, but the opportunity to expand partnerships because curriculum will be statewide

Resources and Questions!

- CT State Website:
<https://ctstate.edu/>
- CT State Catalog:
<http://ct.catalog.acalog.com/>

Thank you for attending!

Questions?